

Learning from our children

As parents we tend to think that we are responsible for teaching our children *everything*! But have you ever thought about how much your children teach you? Just for today, pause and watch your little one. See what a wonderful and wise human being you have in your own home.

If you allow it, your child can become your greatest teacher! Look at the flexibility with which they adapt to change; notice the determination they show when they really want something; and just watch them say "NO" when they feel like it. When we stop to appreciate their independence, initiative, and the trust they have in you and in the world, it's actually pretty inspiring.

Look at how easy it is for children to live in the present moment, without worrying about what could have been or what the future might hold. Look at their bright eyes and big smiles when they look at you, their presence and their sense of joy and wonder. They know in their hearts that life is good and it's okay to love and be loved unconditionally. So just for today try opening yourself up to the possibility that you've got a master teacher right in your midst. Who knows, you may discover you want to try it again tomorrow. Like when your child discovers something they really like. "Again, Mommy! Do it again!"

Catalina Rodriguez

Tempe PRE Coordinator

Catalina Rodriguez, our Tempe PRE Coordinator, worked in various clinical settings with children and families in Colombia prior to coming to the U.S. with her two kids almost four years ago. She's also one of our Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) practitioners in the City of Tempe facilitating classes in both English and Spanish, and she's currently working on a master's degree at ASU in Family and Human Development.



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